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The American University in Cairo

School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

ROLE OF NON GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS (NGOs) IN COMBATING SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN EGYPT

A Thesis Submitted to the

Public Policy and Administration Department

Master of Public Administration

By

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Supervised by

Dr. Laila M. El Baradei

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<u>Abstract</u>

One of the problems which Egypt has been facing for many years is sexual harassment against women and girls, and the problem is increasing day by day until it became hard to control. This study focuses on the important role of NGOs in fighting sexual harassment. NGOs provide psychological and legal support to sexual harassment victims, and do awareness campaigns, creative activities to increase people's awareness and encourage females to file a case against the harasser to take their rights. The study also shows how scholars perceived role of NGOs, the importance of partnership between the government and NGOs and sexual harassment in Egypt. The researcher mentions four international experiences in combatting sexual harassment and the lessons learned from these experiences. This study shows some sexual harassment cases which happened in Egypt, it addresses three Egyptian NGOs as case studies and the results they achieved in increasing women's and girls' awareness regarding sexual harassment. After the researcher did some interviews with NGOs and government representatives, it was found that both the governmental sectors and NGOs are working from their point of view only in solving the problem and there is lack of trust between them. The study proposes some recommendations to put an end to sexual harassment or at least limit it, such as give police officers training about how to deal with sexual harassment victims, organize more awareness campaigns widely, and allow women to have a role in the decision making process regarding females' issues.



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I. CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

One of the main obstacles in the Egyptian society is how it is supposed to be a conservative society and how people behave. Sexual harassment against women and girls is one of the most important challenges in Egypt which is increasing at a frightening rate and is considered as a chronic disease. It became a taboo to talk about for a long time until it is accepted and tolerated socially.

It is defined as human rights violation and a threat to females' freedom and safety which prevents their full engagement in public life. It is a form of violence against women that has serious effects on them and is considered as gender expression of power. Sexual harassment is a violent, undesirable and unwelcome sexual behavior which makes females feel embarrassed and humiliated. It disturbs women's privacy, body and feelings, making them feel pained, threatened, anxious, frightened, insulted, not respected, harmed, offended and objectified (HarassMap, 2015).

Sexual harassment insults persons' self-esteem and undermines the equality between males and females (Clark, 1995). Lonsway and Cortina (2008) noted that sexual harassment is the result of males sexual aggression against females. They said that doers are always males and victims are always females, so women are those who face such a behavior and the negative influence falls only on them. In sexual harassment cases, the responsibility is often put on the victims claiming that they are the ones who ask for it and enjoy it. Moreover, the perpetrator's action is justified by saying that he does not mean to cause any harm to the victim (Lonsway and Cortina, 2008).



As mentioned by Kofi Annan, Former Secretary General of the United Nations, on March 8th, 1999, as long as the imbalance between men and women continues it is impossible to reach progress towards equality, development and peace. According to Abdelkader (2013), the fear of sexual harassment negatively affects women's political and social activities and deprives them from playing their role in the society. In Egypt, males from different cultures, classes and level of education are accused of doing such an action against females. Nevertheless, the social environment and authorities view sexual harassment as a small issue compared to the country's economic and political problems (Abdelkader, 2013).

Since sexual harassment is one of the major daily problems which many girls and women face in the Egyptian Society, Former President Adly Mansour issued a law in 2014, articles 306 A and B of the penal code, considering any unwelcome actions and words that have sexual nature as a crime, and harassers should be sentenced to prison from six months to 5 years and pay penalty up to 5, 000L.E, not less than 3, 000 or one from these ways (Aljazeera, 2015).

Sexual harassment is a topic which is met with denial, discomfort and some judgmental attitudes about girls and women provoking the incident. This makes females hesitate to talk about harassment to avoid bringing scandal and shame to their families, until the problem became normal and people got used to it. Although a law was issued, victims are afraid to report when they are sexually harassed because the society often sees that it is their fault, even if they did not do something wrong. In addition, they do not trust the law feeling that authorities will not deal with them seriously, especially that sometimes police officers harass victims instead of protecting them. This made women see police officers as a threat,



not as supporters. Therefore, it is not easy at all to file a case against the criminal and females prefer to keep silent, and this is reason one why such a problem is increasing at an alarming rate (Fahmy et al., 2014).

In this study, the researcher focuses on the role which NGOs play in fighting sexual harassment. NGOs are doing awareness campaigns and many activities in schools, universities and slum areas in order to increase people's awareness regarding sexual harassment phenomenon, they provide women and girls with psychological and legal support, in addition to a hotline which females can call NGOs' volunteers to ask for help. NGOs are exerting time and effort, but unfortunately they could not achieve their mission or reach tangible results. Here, comes the question what else is needed to eliminate sexual harassment?

MAIN RESEARCH QUESTION

What is the role of NGOs which are working on sexual harassment in Egypt? To what extent they are achieving their goals?

INVESTIGATIVE QUESTIONS

- 1. To what extent is Sexual Harassment (SH) against women prevalent in Egypt? And what are the indicators for the increased spread of the phenomenon?
- 2. How was the phenomenon of SH studied in the literature?
- 3. What are cases of successful international experiences for NGOs fighting SH?
- 4. What is the Egyptian government doing to fight SH?
- 5. What is the role of NGOs in Egypt in fighting SH?



- 6. How effective are the three Egyptian NGOs (ACT, HarassMap and Al Shehab Center) tackled as case studies in this thesis?
- 7. What are the additional policies needed to reduce sexual harassment?



II. CHAPTER TWO

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Sexual harassment is an unwelcome behavior that has sexual attitude, either verbal or physical. It is an issue which is not given the government's attention and is not addressed well until it is worsened and becomes difficult to overcome or limit. There are internal and external factors which affect such a phenomenon, either positively or negatively. The most important internal factors are societal values and societal pressure, while the external ones are role of NGOs and role of some governmental sectors.

One of the main reasons which increases sexual harassment against females is societal values which make females face such a behavior in silence, by not allowing them to talk in such an issue until the problem expanded, people got used to it and it became something normal in the society. Girls are even afraid of their parents who believe that respectable girls do not face such a crime and it is the mistake of those who experience it.

In addition, girls and women are afraid to file a case against the harasser because of the societal pressure and the way people look at them. In sexual harassment incidents, people blame the victim not the criminal, believing that she did something wrong, or she is harassed because of the way she is dressing. Moreover, females are not encouraged to report against the harasser because people force them not to do so in order to protect their reputation. In addition, they are afraid of the pressure which might be faced from the police officers who sometimes harass them and talk to them in an unpleasant way instead of protecting them.

As a result of such a problem, some NGOs started working to combat sexual harassment by doing awareness campaigns to both males and females and offering free



psychological and legal services to the victims. However, such NGOs did not reach their mission in encouraging women and girls to talk and file a case when they experience such an attitude because of the societal values and pressure.

In addition, one of the main challenges which prevents NGOs from reaching their goal is the support they do not get from the governmental sectors. NGOs need the support of the Ministry of Interior Affairs to facilitate their work by getting the approvals needed to do awareness campaigns and by implementing sexual harassment law, which the government issued without monitoring whether it is implemented or no. In addition, Ministry of Social Solidarity does not cooperate with NGOs to organize the awareness campaigns done by both of them so as not to repeat tasks. Moreover, Central Agency for General Public Mobilization and Statistics takes a long time to provide NGOs with the approval needed to do household statistics.

As a result of the societal values and pressure, NGOs could not convince girls and women to report against the harasser because of people's perceptions regarding the issue and the harassment they might face in police stations. In addition, NGOs could not achieve tangible results in combatting sexual harassment because some of the governmental sectors do not facilitate their work.



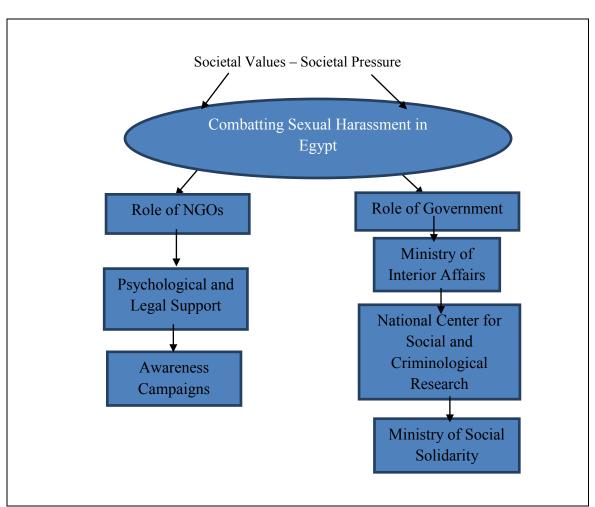


Figure 1: Conceptual Framework

METHODOLOGY

Qualitative methodology was used to collect primary data and information. Doing face to face interviews, with NGOs' project managers and government representatives, helped the researcher to go into very deep analysis and talk freely with the interviewees. Questions were asked about NGOs activities, the obstacles they face, rule of law, what is needed from the government's side and what needs to be done for the future. Secondary data was collected through finding out what other scholars said about role of NGOs, sexual harassment in Egypt and the importance of cooperation between NGOs and the government.



The researcher in this study focused on three NGOs, as case studies, working on sexual harassment and the activities they do in order to overcome such a phenomenon. These NGOs are HarassMap, Appropriate Communications Techniques for Development (Act) and Al Shehab Center for Comprehensive Development. The researcher chose these NGOs in particular because they are doing awareness campaigns and projects in order to raise people's awareness, covering several areas and places and they reached successful outcomes. Some of their successful projects and campaigns are, Save Corporate project by HarassMap, Interactive Theatre campaign by Al Shehab and I saw Harassment campaign by ACT. Below is the description of each of the three NGOs mentioned in this study:

<u>HarassMap</u>: It is the first independent NGO which focused on sexual harassment problem. It started when harassment became a problem threatening the whole Egyptian society and is increasing in the streets to the extent that citizens got used to it.

<u>ACT</u>: It is a big organization which works in several women's issues related to development. It has several programs to fight violence against women, not only sexual harassment.

<u>Al Shehab Center</u>: It works mainly in slums area, such as Mansheyet Nasr and Embaba. It focuses on many other societal issues beside sexual harassment to change people's attitude in such areas.

The three interviewees said that the government is reason number one why NGOs could not achieve their mission and did not reach their goals. Therefore, the researcher had to do interviews with the governmental entities to listen to them and know their point of view



regarding the problem. The researcher chose below ministries in addition to a government machinery, using snowballing technique, because these are the sectors which should have a role to combat sexual harassment or facilitate NGOs work. Snowballing technique was beneficial because of connecting the researcher to the sectors working on the same phenomenon, since minimal sectors and governmental organizations work on sexual harassment against women and girls. Below are the ministries and the government machinery which the researcher met:

<u>Ministry of Social Solidarity</u>: Such ministry is interested in women's issues and is responsible to achieve social protection to every Egyptian. It listens to the masses' complaints, providing them with the needed support.

<u>National Center for Social and Criminological Research</u>: This center has a good analysis about sexual harassment, people's opinion as per each one's culture and why it is not limited.

<u>Ministry of Education</u>: Such ministry could play an important role in solving the problem by imposing real ethics and good manners in the curriculums to bring up children on how to respect others' rights, paying no attention to their gender or nationality.

<u>Ex-employee in ACT NGO and in Ministry of Social Solidarity</u>: Having an interview with an ex-employee from both views, NGO and the government, was beneficial for the researcher because of giving neutral opinion without being biased to any side.



In addition, the researcher addressed four countries which are India, Bangladesh, Malaysia, and Pakistan as international experiences in combatting sexual harassment. The researcher chose these countries in particular because females there face sexual harassment behavior from men without taking an action against the harasser, exactly like Egypt. The researcher gave an introduction about the country and about sexual harassment issue, giving an example about one NGO in each country which is working on eliminating sexual harassment and the good results it reached.



III. CHAPTER THREE

LITERATURE REVIEW

Role of NGOs

This chapter talks about how several scholars studied the important role of NGOs in serving people, showing how they could be the government's supporters in handling many of the difficult issues which the state could not handle or does not even pay attention to. The chapter also talks about how sexual harassment in Egypt was discussed by some scholars and the importance of cooperation between the government and NGOs.

NGOs have an important influence on the society by focusing on serious topics, which the government does not give them priority, and by recommending the best policy to solve the problem (Campbell, 1998). They play a vital role in defining the problem, looking for better policies and solutions and help in implementing them. NGOs try to affect the states' interests through outlining the problems, recommending solutions and suggestions for a political action. They attract government's intention for their issues by focusing on the procedures that have to be done in order to consolidate experience and monitor the right action, either collective or individual (Joachim, 2003).

NGOs play a very important role in cultivating and representing the government's social capital and in improving public services. They fill in the gaps in the areas where public services are inefficient and ineffective. Through their demands on the state, NGOs can make services and policies more relevant, responsive and effective (Brinkerhoff, 2003). This was agreed by Marcussen (1996), who said that NGOs complement the state and fill in the



vacuum that the government failed to fill, in addition, sometimes they replace the state and oppose its strategies and policies (Marcussen, 1996).

The advantages of NGOs are their ability to reach the poor, encourage people's participation to be part of the society, start projects that will benefit the masses and manage what the government can't in delivering services, such as in education, health, --etc. Most of the NGOs succeed in forming new groups or strengthening the existing ones, raise people's awareness, supporting poor people, meeting their needs and encouraging self-reliance (Marcussen, 1996).

NGOs also play an important role in the development field by supporting democracy, calling for human rights advocacy, improving education, promoting sustainable development and providing philanthropic help since 1980s (Rice & Ritchie, 1995). Their effort in the developing countries was as a result of the governments' failure to reach the poor, by providing better services to citizens and reducing the gap between the poor and the rich (Streeten, 1997). They are effective because of their capability to deliver services to people at low cost and provide technical and financial support to the target group, which is the grass root level (Cernea, 1988).

NGOs' programs enhance the communities' capacity to ask for their basic rights (Vakil, 1997). As agreed by Srivastava and Austin (2012), NGOs' efforts are made to develop women's health and education in the developing countries using a bottom up approach, which is based on a rights-based approach (Srivastava and Austin, 2012). In addition, Handy & Kassam (2007) said that NGOs have a vital role in tackling discrimination against women by discussing females' rights as human beings, focusing on their equality to



males in everything (Handy & Kassam, 2007). Governments increasingly depend on NGOs in developing countries because of being close to people's needs and their deep insight into women's issues (Srivastava and Austin, 2012). They are also considered to be more flexible and open to change with creative innovations (Streeten, 1997).

According to Samuel and Thanikachalam (2003), NGOs were defined by the World Bank as "private organizations that pursue activities to relieve suffering, promote the interests of the poor, protect the environment, provide basic social services or undertake community development". The World Bank (1998) stated that NGOs role is "outside change agent", that "helps the community realize its potentials" by its own guidance and interventions. Jaix (1992) believes that NGOs have better practical and accurate information about the problems of the local environment than the government. As a result, they can find better solutions to the societal problems than governments' specialists, especially that they are closer to poor people than the organizations of the public sector (Samuel and Thanikachalam, 2003).

Samuel and Thanikachalam (2003) said that NGOs' organizational structure are informal and not hierarchical or bureaucratic, in addition to being result oriented without paying attention to regulations and political authorities and this is considered as point of strength that helps them achieve their goals. The World Bank Operational Directive explains that NGOs strengths of potential is their capability to be available in remote places and poor areas, promote the participation of local people, function at lower cost, identify people's requirements, build on local resources and come up with new effective ideas (Samuel and Thanikachalam, 2003).



Dar and Wani (2012) agreed that NGOs comprehend what is missing from the political parties and other organizations in areas such as democracy, human rights and research. They are the main channel which the state uses in order to expand women's part in the society, and they are considered as an important factor in helping women know their rights by targeting females' issues, such as domestic violence. For females, NGOs are considered as an alternative voice that could be heard because they are the central power in handling females' issues. They agreed that NGOs play an important role in bringing women's issues to be one of the governments' priority and their effort is reason one how women become empowered. They fill the gap in weak government programs and increase the impact of programs in grassroots development (Dar and Wani, 2012).

Many researchers such as Evans (1996), Garilao (1987), Bhatnagar and Williams (1992) agreed that NGOs may be best placed for the tasks of increasing popular participation. This includes articulating the weak people needs, working in remote areas, changing attitudes and practices of local officials, and developing the productive capacity of the most vulnerable groups such as the disabled or the landless (Brinkerhoff, 2003).

Tzvetkova (2002) believed that NGOs are considered as the 'conscience of government' and representatives of civil society. They step in when the government fails to take the initiative, and this is the case in most of the countries including Egypt, NGOs step in when the governments fail to provide services or give the needed support to the citizens (Tzvetkova, 2002). Clark (1995) said that NGOs influence development in many ways, for example, official aid agencies and government ministries adopt successful approaches developed within the NGO, help citizens to know their rights and how to enjoy them and



adapt programs which address public needs through acting as a channel for the public opinion and local experience (Clark 1995).

Some scholars, as Clark (1995) and Tendler (1982) agreed that NGOs are essential for many reasons: (a) they act as a scale for 12% of total development assistance (Clark, 1995); (b) they could easily reach poor people; (c) they are capable to innovate, and this is something that could not be done by official agencies or the government (Bebbington and Farrington, 1993); (d) they are able to have close links with poor communities; and (e) their skills in focusing on societal problems (Clark, 1995).

Moreover, Salamon and Anheier (1991), Bratton (1990) mentioned that NGOs resources are not only "fill in the gaps" but they are also a back up to the failures of the public and private sectors (Clark, 1995). One of the NGOs' advantages is that they can compensate for any reduction in the size of the public sector by implementing programs and actions, in order to be able to relief the socially deteriorating influences of structural adjustment. From this perception, NGOs become a source that should be used in order to provide better services for the masses and achieve what the government could not succeed in (Bebbington & Farrington, 1993).

From what is mentioned above, NGOs play an important role in the society because of their effectiveness and ability to reach everyone, especially the poor. They understand people's needs, provide them with better services, hear their voices and respond to them soon. They provide better services to citizens in several areas, such as education, health, human rights---etc, and complement what the state could not achieve. As a result, NGOs are much more important to the masses than the government in meeting their needs.



Importance of Coalition between the Government and NGOs

This section shows how scholars talked about the importance of collaboration between the government and the NGOs. Such coalition will provide better services to the citizens, especially that the government focuses more on political issues and could not deal with all the societal problems alone.

The term NGO is applied to any organization which is: (1) self-governing and independent from government, (2) not for profit and (3) has meaningful voluntary content. On the other hand, the government represents both central and local government authorities. Such definition for the two terms shows that they complete each other in serving the masses and improve social services provided, that's why cooperation or coalition between them is essential (Ullah et. al, 2006). Brinkerhoff (2003) agreed with Ullah saying that partnership between the government and the NGOs is important because of the value it added to the public service (Brinkerhoff, 2003).

In addition, Tandon (1991) said that when the interaction between the government and the NGOs is high, poverty rate and other social problems which has affect people are reduced. Clark (1995) agreed with Tandon saying that NGOs help the governments to follow up on the societal problems. Another study done by Fisher (1992) and Clark (1991) stated that NGOs may interact closely with local government and play a strong role in local development activities. Nevertheless, studies of decentralization and land reform programs in a range of countries had demonstrated that the active involvement of local organizations with the government, such as NGOs, is a key factor in influencing the degree of benefits reaching to citizens who are poor, and they are considered as an alternative provider of services and development projects (Clark, 1995).



Scholars as Bhatnagar and Williams (1992) emphasized the need for pluralism and a prominent citizens' voice in national development planning, and this can be contributed by NGOs through promoting participatory development. When the government has a positive social agenda and NGOs are effective, this will lead to a solid and joint connection and hence achieve great results. Tandon (1991) agreed with Bhatnagar and Williams saying that this does not mean the authorizing of placid NGOs, but the government and NGOs will work together on solving the countries' problems which were supposed to be handled by the government, and therefore remove some burdens from the government's shoulder. Such coalition has to be based on mutual respect, approval of sovereignty, independence, and diversity of NGO's opinions and positions (Clark, 1995).

As agreed by Femandez (1987) and Tandon (1991), many strategic NGOs are overcoming their inhibitions and are seeking better cooperation with the government. By doing so, NGOs will be capable to contribute to participatory development and expose the government to a grassroots view, which might be neglected otherwise. The planning of projects and policies can be strongly influenced by inviting leaders of NGOs to serve on government commissions or by holding public discussions in which grassroots organizations are able to speech their concerns and experience. When NGOs work closely with the government, they provide better support at the local and national level (Clark, 1995).

Research evidence showed that working in isolation will end up in repetition of efforts and failure to achieve mission, whereas collaboration will create interaction, reach goals and simplify information flow. In a number of developing countries, non-government stakeholders cover a main element of health care. So, to be able to avoid clashes, it is essential for the health care suppliers in these countries to work together with the



government. In Bangladesh, as an example, the government and NGOs work in partnership in order to offer health care to helpless citizens such as children, poor people and women. Within the collaboration between the government and the NOGs, the state preserves ownership in the areas of policy formulation, policy implementation and human resource development, while NGOs focus more on facilitating the activities within national policies and strategies, and this results in providing better services to the citizens (Ullah et. al 2006).

As mentioned by Ullah et. al (2006), a number of studies have shown that the government and NGOs have mutual goals and vision regarding social sector development, such as health and nutrition, poverty alleviation, human resources development, environmental protection, non-formal education and women's development. As a result, government–NGO collaboration has to be improved and sustained so as not to duplicate efforts and achieve better outcomes. Based on data from UNICEF (1999); Zafar Ullah (2002); Begum (2000), when the government and NGOs work collaboratively the government will provide better services to people with higher coverage and NGOs will be able to increase community responsiveness regarding social issues and achieve higher credibility, therefore it is a win-win situation (Ullah et. al, 2006).

Begum (2000) showed in her research that when the government and NGOs collaborate, shared tasks are based on the knowledge and the skills of both of them. In addition, both sectors work on what each one is specialized in, work on broadening the services provided for the most disadvantaged citizens and the poor, and this leads to reaching great results. Moreover, such cooperation prioritizes public problems agreeing on which one to start handling. Bratton (1989), Honandle and Cooper (1989), Barkat and Islam (2001) agreed with Begum saying that without such collaboration, the difference between interests



and ideologies of the government and NGOs will lead to confusion and inequalities (Ullah et. al 2006).

Ross (1990), Begum (2000), Barkat and Islam (2001) agreed that collaboration will definitely lead to efficiency because there will be less duplication among the activities done by both sectors, especially in a context of resource limitations. When the government and NGOs collaborate, they share information, technology and expertise. Other scholars as Alter and Hage (1993), argued that organizational individualism has been seen as an insufficient reaction to the problems. As a result, the effort of more than one organization is essential, and coalition between the government and the NGOs is vital to reach efficient and effective outcomes (Ullah et.al 2006).

To sum up, government's political will to meet people's needs and improve their social standard is not enough to solve the societal problems, which affect the citizens. Therefore, it is important that both the government and qualified nongovernmental institutions work collaboratively to implement, adopt and institutionalize political directives to provide people with valuable services and treatment and reach satisfied results.

Sexual Harassment in Egypt

This section in the chapter gives an overview about how sexual harassment in Egypt was studied by several scholars, showing how the problem is serious and should be handled. The section shows the studies which were done by different entities about this issue in Egypt and the problems which women face when they file a case, in addition to giving an overview about sexual harassment law.



In Egypt, sexual harassment in all public places is considered as a long-lasting and huge problem which has been growing in the society for many years. All categories of women are victimized to sexual harassment, either young girls or old women. Society denial and fear of the community prevent women from reporting and asking for help. If we ask about the factors that increased such violence, reasons will be lack of responsiveness from the police officers, distrust the Egyptian law and authorities, and finally put the blame on the victims only (Fahmy et al., 2014).

Reference to a study done by UN women, women do not report harassment because they fear societies' pressure and attitude which will blame them on provoking the harasser by the clothes or the make-up they wear, and they fear police officers who sometimes harass victims instead of protecting them. As a result, women feel "double victimization": first the attack and then authorities' failure to deliver real justice (Doraid, 2012). International and national organizations described sexual harassment in Egypt as an "epidemic" which females are subjected to (Fahmy et. al, 2014).

Moreover, Social Planning, Analysis and Administration Consultants (SPAAC) group made a study in Egypt in 2008 and found out that 72.4% of married women and 94% of unmarried female youth stated facing verbal sexual harassment. On the other hand, 22.2% of married women and 21.7% of unmarried female youth reported being mistreated sexually. Another study published in 2008 by the Egyptian Centre for Women's Rights stated that, 86% of the males interviewed confessed having sexually harassed females. Such daily violence has severe repercussions on females' freedom of movement, using transport or going out in the streets after dark (Fahmy et. al, 2014).



In addition, Center for Social Research in Cairo carried a study in 2011 stating that 87% of unmarried girls faced sexual harassment routinely, outside and inside their neighborhood. Such women did not protest for help, or even report the case to the police because of feeling guilty, ashamed and humiliated (Doraid, 2012).

According to a study done by UN Women in 2013, 14% of the survivors who made complains to the police reported being mocked by police officers and 6% of those who reported cases are sexually harassed by them. Another study was done by Nazra which shows that, several respondents stated that there are police stations which are considered "hotspots" for sexual attacks, moreover, police officers lack expertise and training on violence against females. One of the respondents conveyed that she went to a police station because her ID was stolen and was verbally harassed by the police men, in addition to others who reported being pressured to withdraw their complaint when they were sexually harassed (Nazra, 2015).

Furthermore, Human Rights Watch assessed that at least 500 female were sexually assaulted by masses in Egypt from 2011 to 2014. Since January 25 revolution, women faced sexual violence not only from males in the streets, but also from state actors who are represented in the military, police officers, soldiers, --etc. (Schultz, 2014). Fahmy et al. (2014) stated that after the 2011 revolution in Egypt, violent sexual assaults against women proved that females do not have a place in the public sphere (Fahmy et al., 2014).

What is even worse is the fact that, although number of sexual harassment cases is frightening, the government could not take any clear actions in protecting women or even punishing those who are responsible for the assault (Fahmy et al., 2014). As mentioned by Nazra NGO for Feminist Studies, the violence against women is planned and structured in



order to scare females from the public sphere, to punish women for their contribution and keep them away from the political life (Nazra, 2015).

Abdelkader (2013) said that sexual harassment is a daily struggle which Egyptian girls and women, from all ages and background, face and should accept in many different cases. It is an extensive social problem that damages females and violates their basic rights to freedom and safety, especially that harassers do such an action intentionally. In Egypt, almost men from all cultures, classes and level of education are responsible of doing such an action against women (Abdelkader, 2013).

Sexual harassment was not considered as a crime in the Egyptian code, until in 2014 an incident happened in Cairo University with a girl, and it was discussed in the media. After that, President Adly Mansour issued the first law to be dedicated to sexual harassment, stating that harassment is a crime and harassers should be punished. According to the law, articles 306 (a) and 306 (b) of the Penal Code, behavioral, verbal and even online sexual harassment will lead to prison from 6 months to 5 years, and up to L.E. 50,000 penalty (HarassMap, 2016).

Law Articles

Article 306 (a)

Anyone who will provoke others by verbal or physical sexual behavior, either in private or private places, will be prisoned for 6 months and pay penalty from L.E.3000 and L.E. 5000 or punished by any of these ways. In addition, if the action is repeated by the harasser through stalking or following the victim, he will be sentenced to prison for a period not less than a year and a penalty not less than L.E.5000 and up to L.E.1000. In case the



action is repeated for the third time, punishment will be doubled for both imprisonment and penalty (HarassMap, 2015).

Article 306 (b)

If the crime in Article 306 (a) is committed intentionally to receive benefit of sexual nature, it will be considered sexual harassment and the harasser will be sentenced to prison for a prison not less than a year and a penalty not less than L.E. 10,000 and up to L.E. 20,000. Moreover, if the criminal "has occupational authority, familial, educational/mentoring, or practiced any kind of pressure on the harassed that would allow the context of committing the crime, or the crime is committed by 2 perpetrators or more, or if at least one of them had a weapon, punishment is not less than 2 years in prison and does not exceed 5 years, and punishment is not less than 20000 Egyptian pounds and does not exceed 50000 Egyptian pounds" (HarassMap, 2015).

Issuing a law to be dedicated to fighting sexual harassment is considered as a turning point in Egypt, especially that the law is a tool in the government's hand to ensure that public sectors are working for the citizens' interest. However, the law does not guarantee saving women's right to live in a safe environment because it is not well implemented or activated. Having sexual harassment law is a good start to overcome such phenomenon, but it is a continuous process that should be fully applied and completely managed, and this is not the case in Egypt. What happened in Egypt is that the government issued the law and that's it, without putting a real policy on how it will be applied, a strategy to apply it, an implementation design or a vision.



When a law is enforced, the government should make sure that it will not violate the basic rights of human beings especially those who are not aware of their rights, it is the duty of the police officers to tell the citizens what their basic rights are. Conversely, when it comes to reality we will find that one of the complicated issues which Egyptian women face when they are sexually harassed, is filing a complaint against the harasser because policemen do not accept complaints unless the survivor insists, sometimes they harass them instead and reports are not taken seriously telling the victims that they would bring shame to their family.

According to Nadeem NGO, a police officer answered a woman saying, "If all men who harass a girl have to go to prison for 3 years, then you want to lock up all the men. He did not steal something from you so what do you want?" (Nazra, 2015). Another case was reported by a member in I Saw Harassment campaign about a policeman who said to a survivor, who wanted to file a complaint after harassment she faced during Eid el Adha October 2012, "May God punish you, you're a bunch of women with too much free time and are ruining Eid for the kids". Another police in Port Said responded, "The girls are probably enjoying it". Moreover, one survivor was stressed by her family to withdraw her complaint after reporting. In another case, the girl received a phone call from the suspect's mother begging her to drop the charges. This shows that the law is not activated and does not encourage girls and women to file a case (Nazra, 2015).

In addition, females are afraid to be blamed by the society when they report being sexually harassed because most of the society members give excuses to the harasser, saying that the girl provoked him by the way she is dressed up. Some lawyers said that one of the important issues in the law is the absence of protecting survivors and witnesses by stating that they should remain anonymous. Identifying the entity could make survivors afraid to report



when they are sexually harassed, because of the repercussions they will face. For example, the girl will be blamed of provoking the guy or not being virgin (Doraid, 2012).

Protecting witnesses and survivors identities from disclosure helps in reducing the risk of being known in public and facing people's ridiculous comments. According to the international law, privacy of witnesses and victims who contribute in the investigation of violence against females are protected. This could be by not mentioning anything that shows who they are and investigating in closed sessions by using a sort of screen to prevent direct contact between the victim and the accused person (Doraid, 2012).

Moreover, New Woman Foundation (NWF) stated that without clear methods aiming at encouraging females to file a case against such a crime, as well as effective prosecutions, investigations and services to support the survivors, the law will have little effect or will not even affect and this is the case in Egypt (Fahmy et al., 2014). Sexual harassment law was issued, but there are no clear methods or strategy about how to implement it. Therefore, it is not implemented or even activated.

To summarize, sexual harassment is a severe problem in the Egyptian society which females face in several places. Even though a law was issued to fight sexual harassment but women are not encouraged to file a case because of what they face from police officers in the police stations, in addition to societal pressure.



IV. CHAPTER FOUR

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCES IN FIGHTING SEXUAL HARASSMENT

This chapter gives an overview about sexual harassment in four countries, which are India, Bangladesh, Malaysia and Pakistan. It includes an example for an effective NGO in each country, and how it is playing an important role in fighting such a problem. The message which these NGOs deliver is that, sexual harassment is a social and an illegal crime and in order to punish the harasser, the society should stop hiding it or accepting it.

<u>India</u>

Since independence in 1947, India has made successful steps towards the progress of the nation through five years plan. Agriculture production has risen quickly and development of industrialization has played a role in the economic progress of the country. However, total progress in limiting poverty and inequality has been limited. One of the problems which female Indians suffer from is sexual harassment (Das, 1999).

Extent of Sexual Harassment Problem

Reference to a report done in 2008 by the Indian National Crime Record Bureau Crime, about 12,214 cases of sexual harassment were reported in the country in a year and this showed an increase by 11.5% in comparison with the year before which recorded 10,950 cases. The Crime Report indicated that, in 2008 sexual harassment cases rate was 50.5%. In India, sexual harassment is considered a huge violation against the fundamental rights of human beings especially in 'Gender Equality' and 'Right to Life and Liberty' (Lymoo, 2010).



Example of active NGO in India against Sexual Harassment Aware Citizen Foundation NGO

Organization Background

One of the NGOs which was working to increase women's and youth's awareness on such a critical issue is Aware Citizen Foundation NGO, based out of New Delhi. It is working to eliminate gender inequality through education, workshops and training. It focuses on building people's awareness and consciousness on important issues such as sexual harassment in public or private sectors (Aware Citizen Foundation, 2015).

Organization Activities

Aware Citizen Foundation works to eliminate sexual harassment in the work places. It provides services in order to help and support employers to implement act 2013, which states that any organization with ten employees or more should have a committee to look at all sexual harassment cases which happens at work to eliminate such incidents in their organizations (Aware Citizen Foundation, 2015).

These services are:

- Provide courses and trainings to employees to increase their awareness about the seriousness of the problem, and assist the management administration at work to help the employees in case they are sexually harassed, aiming to create a safe and respectful environment.
- Adopt a comprehensive and full approach by drafting HR policy according to the Indian law.



- Give training to the supervisors and managers through e-module or classrooms about how to prevent sexual harassment and what to do in case such incidents happen in their organization
- 4. Offer talks and programs to assist organizations and employees to understand the legal implications of Act 2013 and how to apply the law's provisions
- 5. Provide helpline to help callers with all what is needed. Such helpline works seven days per week at 12-7 pm by volunteers who are trained professionally.
- 6. Provide counselling services for women and youth
- 7. Provide experienced and professional lawyers twice a month to provide females with free advice and consultation

Organization Strategy in Offering Services

Aware Citizen Foundation delivers trainings in an easy and simple way, including case studies and role plays so that participants will enjoy the training and understand it better. All programs and trainings are available online, and meet the needs of employees and managers according to their level of positions at the organization. Such online trainings were arranged with the Indian government according to the laws and culture, they can be easily accessed in order to help any female employee to access it any time and share her experience online without being ashamed or embarrassed (Aware Citizen Foundation, 2015).

Organization Outcome

Aware Citizen Foundation played an important role and did a great effort in increasing the awareness of employees and the organization's management. It succeeded in assisting employers to have a committee to be responsible for sexual harassment cases which



happen at work, and hence create safe environment for female employees (Aware Citizen Foundation, 2015).

Bangladesh

Bangladesh suffers from some political, social and economic problems which have to be addressed in order to develop the country. Socio - economic development for Bangladesh is recognized by some social and economic indicators, such as GDP growth, poverty, employment and education. Bangladesh females suffer from several social problems, for example, more than two million female employees in garments sector are low-paid and their salaries do not meet daily expenses. In addition, women face acid attacks because of their refusal of marriage proposals. One of the problems which many females have to experience is sexual harassment (Rahman et. al, 2011).

Extent of Sexual Harassment Problem

In Bangladesh, sexual harassment is a serious problem either at work, in streets or even at schools. As the case in many countries, due to lack of awareness this crime is silent and victims do not talk against it because people's values and culture discourage discussing the problem and females are afraid to report (Bakker, 2013).

Example of active NGO in Bangladesh against Sexual Harassment BRAC NGO

Organization Background

BRAC was established aiming for a world which is free from any forms of discrimination and exploitation. It focused on empowering people and all communities living



in poverty, illiteracy, injustice and disease in order to achieve positive changes using social and economic programs to enable males and females understand their potentials. Since violence against females, including sexual harassment, was extremely rooted and was increasing, BRAC organized MEJNIN project to increase students' awareness about such a problem which is accepted culturally (Huq, 2012).

Organization Activities

BRAC started a safe citizenship project for girls and women, called MEJNIN, in August 2010 and ran in 57 schools in the Municipality of Dhaka to fight sexual harassment at schools, trying to help school girls who felt helpless. It held workshops, spread posters, brochures, leaflets and banners in public spaces and in schools to raise people's awareness and encourage social mobilization to stop sexual harassment (Bakker, 2013).

MEJNIN project focused on increasing the awareness of kids, parents, teachers, school administration, stakeholders and community people about what was meant by sexual harassment, possible age of a girl for sexual harassment, problems girls would face if they were sexually harassed and sexual harassment laws. The project lasted for one year 2010-2011, aiming at (Bakker, 2013):

- 1. Increasing girls' knowledge and awareness.
- 2. Encouraging females to speak and report the case when they are sexually harassed by any means, since it is an illegal crime
- 3. Offering victims with any needed support
- 4. Increasing community responsiveness by focusing on the problem, encouraging them to take an action and stop being silent



During the program, respondents were asked to think of recommendations through which they could protect themselves from sexual harassment. This was an effective way to assure that respondents' awareness was increased and they understood the concept of sexual harassment quiet well. For example, students at schools came up with many creative ideas and this proved that they understood the meaning of sexual harassment, what to do to avoid it and the legal action that should be taken. Below are some of the respondents' suggestions (Bakker, 2013):

- Increase boys' awareness about sexual harassment law and its consequences, not only girls.
- 2. Form a committee at schools in order to solve harassment subjects and arrange activities for boys with bad behaviors.
- 3. Give girls training about life-skill, such as karate, to protect themselves, informing them that they must not answer any unknown boys if they were called.
- 4. Girls should stand against the criminal by asking for help from bystanders so that harassers would be punished according to the law, and they would not even dare to repeat such a crime again.
- Parents should have knowledge about sexual harassment and have the courage to discuss it with their sons and daughters.

Organization Strategy in Offering Services

MEJNIN's strategies focused on awareness campaigns regarding sexual harassment for girls at schools. In addition, the program organized a Community Watch Group which held meetings for the parents and classified places which harassment were presented. It worked with some local police, school administrators, teachers and School Management



Committee members. As for the national level, media was used in order to distribute its message and organize national conferences for stakeholders, such as government officials, journalists and students. When there were incidents unresolved, MEJNIN held meetings and protests in coordination with other NGOs trying to change the community's behaviors and wrong values (Bakker, 2013).

MEJNIN staff was considered as advocates to teachers, advisors and students in raising awareness about sexual harassment. Therefore, participants in the program were trained to be advocates as well, including school boys, girls, teachers and school principals. Since sexual harassment towards females was as a result of males' aggressiveness and the society's silence, the project targeted both boys and girls in trying to decrease such violence. This was because programs which aim to limit sexual harassment should target both men and women, women are the ones at risk and men are the main perpetrators, so the issue should be discussed from both sides (Bakker, 2013).

Organization Outcome

After MEJNIN program, girls became more aware about the types of sexual harassment, how to protect themselves and the actions that should be taken. Furthermore, reporting harassment cases to the police were increased. As for boys, they became more aware about such a phenomenon and its consequences. BRAC achieved great success with such a program to the extent that its staff thought of expanding the program throughout the whole country, propose an action plan with the state and with national and international organizations to provide safe environment to girls at schools (Bakker, 2013).



<u>Malaysia</u>

Malaysia has been characterized by being a plural society and distinct racial communities, each community is having its own activities. Some growth has been accomplished in the past few years in reducing gender gap in Malaysia, this was evidenced by increasing the participation of female labor force. Women's participation in several activities lead to great growth in the economy. During 1997, Malaysia faced an economic disaster and women were the most affected because of the increase in unemployment rate, especially heads of households. With the loss of jobs, families were forced to cut back on food, education and other essentials especially that private sectors preferred hiring males. Such economic downturn lead to increasing violence against women and one of the issues which females experience in Malaysia is sexual harassment (Ahmad, 1998).

Extent of Sexual Harassment Problem

Malaysia does not have a law fighting against sexual harassment and does not have any suitable protections for the survivors, therefore survivors were discouraged to file a case. In addition, federal constitution do not forbid discrimination between genders and labor laws do not defend employees from sexual harassment at work. This made some women's rights groups, named the Joint Action Group against Women Violence, did a workshop for two days in order to highlight the issue of violence against women in Malaysia including domestic violence and sexual harassment. The two-day event had a great success and resulted in the formation of some non-government organizations such as AWAM, "All women's Action Society Malaysia" (AWAM, 2015).



Example of active NGO in Malaysia against Sexual Harassment All Women's Action Society NGO (AWAM)

Organization Background

AWAM is a non-government feminist organization, established in 1988 and is dedicated to end gender-based violence to achieve equality, protect citizens' rights and empower violence survivors. AWAM works with different organizations and coalitions at national and international level so as to increase the impact of its programs and reach good results. It works and develops awareness trainings on many issues such as rape, anti-sexual harassment policy, sexual harassment and political participation of women. Trainings target healthcare providers, police officers, school-going children, teenagers, survivors, local communities, the business sector and government officers to establish a nationwide women movement in Malaysia (AWAM, 2015).

Organization Activities

AWAM arranges talks and campaigns about gender-based violence subjects at universities, schools and work places. It provides counselling services and legal aid for those who survived from gender-based violence, informing women with their rights. It also launched helpline in 1997 to help the public with all needed support and hence reach a better and equitable society free from the several forms of violence and discrimination (AWAM, 2015).

AWAM organized "Shout" campaign which is a national campaign, focusing on how to put an end to sexual harassment. The campaign had eleven organizational members, including the Association of Women Lawyers, Bar Council Human Rights Committee,



Sahabat Wanita, Women's Aid Organisation and Women's Centre for Change, in addition to many academics with research capability on sexual harassment. Shout advocated for awareness regarding sexual harassment and what should be done in dealing with harassment cases or when witnessing a case. The campaign aimed to increase people's awareness in order to have safe and accessible public spaces for everyone (AWAM, 2015).

Organization Strategy in Offering Services

Members were trained in order to be future trainers and raise people's awareness on women's issues and the ways to overcome gender violence. AWAM listed online phone numbers and addresses of hospitals, counsel centers, lawyers for legal support and names of women shelters to provide females with all what is needed in case they experience sexual harassment. It worked with policemen, hospitals, government agencies, schools and firms to give trainings about sexual harassment to employees, students and people. In addition, it provided legal data and counselling over the phone or face-to-face appointment at the center and services were for free, confidential and available to anyone (AWAM, 2015).

Organization Outcome

As per AWAM great effort, many requests were sent to it from many organizations asking for a training, through which employers understand what was meant by sexual harassment, how to avoid it and what to do in case someone experiences such an attitude. The organization did forty four trainings and about sixteen public education campaigns in 2014, focusing on sexual harassment to empower women and increase their awareness.

Moreover, in one year it trained over 5,000 employee from both public and private sectors. The training lasted for full-day workshop and members learned the meaning of



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sexual harassment, its types and how to report cases. AWAM had many interviews in the media talking about such an attack and the issue was raised as a result of their work. AWAM succeeded in increasing the society's awareness and it delivered its message regarding sexual harassment in Malaysia. Therefore, it succeeded in changing such an issue from being personal ones to a public sphere and this resulted in breaking the silence on violence against females.

<u>Pakistan</u>

People in Pakistan have several problems which are related to health because of limited access to health services, poverty and poor conditions of life. Poverty in Pakistan is increasing more in rural areas, where nearly 70% of the population is living, people there lack basic rights such as education, safe water to drink and social services, in addition to insufficiency of income (Muhammed, 2014). Pakistan is one of the countries which is characterized by having a large number of illiterate people, as a result it is difficult to have values, manners and democratic institutions in a society where around half of the adult people are illiterate. The situation is mainly frightening for women and those who are living in rural areas (Atta & Uddin 2009). One of the issues which females experience in Pakistan is sexual harassment.

Extent of Sexual Harassment Problem

In Pakistan, women face sexual harassment in many places, in streets, at work and in public places. Therefore, their contribution to Pakistan's development is weak, to the extent that during the previous years the state tried to increase number of female employees, either in public or private sector, but did not succeed because the environment is neither safe nor



supportive. Sexual harassment is a serious and huge issue which is very persistent to the extent that the absence of concrete policy or law makes women a helpless group, who must fight for their rights and get the least support. In addition, women's weak economic status and social structure make males feel that they are powered over females (AASHA, 2015).

Example of active NGO in Pakistan against Sexual Harassment Alliance against Sexual Harassment NGO (AASHA)

Organization Background

The enormity of violence and gender discrimination against women resulted in a joint campaign by organizations which worked as a facilitator to change people's attitude, implement policies and laws to help women gain their rights. A group of non-government organizations was created in 2001 named Alliance Against Sexual Harassment (AASHA) which meant "hope" to end harassment in the society. AASHA consisted of six non-government organizations which were, Action AID, Mehergarh, Bedari, Pakistan Institute of Labour Education and Research, Interactive Resource Centre and Hawwa Associates (AASHA, 2015).

AASHA's main aim was creating society zero tolerance for sexual harassment and reaching a productive and safe work environment free from discrimination and violence, especially that such a problem was not accepted by the media or the government. It focused on raising awareness on the issue regarding the problem to help private sectors and the government in creating a society free from sexual harassment. Its first initiative focused on taking effective methods to mobilize and affect policy makers to provide women with the needed protection at work and create a healthy and safe environment, where they can work freely like men (AASHA, 2015).



Organization Activities

In December 2001, AASHA could get the government's agreement to work on policy structure as a way to fight sexual harassment in Pakistan, at the time when only UN had a policy against sexual harassment. Since sexual harassment was one of the serious problems which women were facing in Pakistan, AASHA did in depth investigation and a research analysis to look for culturally reasonable and sensitive solutions. It studied the constitutional provisions, policies and laws in Pakistan, in addition to reviewing all other legislations which were applicable in other countries to address sexual harassment. Dr. Fouzia Saeed, on behalf of AASHA, proposed a draft for anti-sexual harassment policy in workplaces. AASHA named it Code of Conduct for Gender Justice because the government did not accept the word sexual harassment at the time (AASHA, 2015).

Dr. Fouzia Saeed drafted the legislation on behalf of AASHA, and legal experts amended it in late 2007 and started pushing it by the several state processes. It took two years working hardly and closely with the state, senate, parliament and cabinet to pass the legislation. The bill was reviewed by the National Assembly as a result of AASHA team's hard work and was finally signed by the president. Such bill was a policy against sexual harassment that had to be implemented in both public and private sectors. Every organization should form a committee which consists of three persons in order to record sexual harassment complaints in the organization. After investigation, administration would suggest the penalty that would be forced on the harasser according to the case. This was an effective way to help women live and work in a respectful environment (AASHA, 2015).

In addition, AASHA provided campaigns on sexual harassment to increase women's awareness regarding this serious issue. It printed posters and calendars grouping sexual



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harassers in order to shift public focus to the harasser's attitude instead of the victims. Such awareness turned this issue to a national movement (AASHA, 2015).

Organization Strategy in Offering Services

AASHA members arranged a working women assembly annually, so that women from every city in the country participate to express solidarity with AASHA to reduce sexual harassment at work, and know how to deal with sexual harassment situations. This showed that although policy was established in formal sector, the movement did not disregard the informal sector and females in both private and public places. AASHA gave awards once per year so as to acknowledge the effort of progressive employers in private sectors, who implement the anti-sexual harassment policy successfully in their business and to encourage others to do the same. These organizations were the enlightened leaders who made a commitment in order to change the work environment and ensure that each female was living in a safe environment with respect (AASHA, 2015).

Organization Outcome

A strategy was established in order to combat sexual harassment, starting from the formal work places as a result of AASHA's great effort which worked closely with the government officials, private sector, civil society organizations and academia. It worked not only on issuing the policy, but also helped around 300 organizations to adopt such policy on a voluntary basis. After the great success of implementing sexual harassment policy for five years, AASHA got a modification in section 509 of PPC so as to save Pakistani women from sexual harassment in the formal sector (AASHA, 2015).

To conclude, each of the four NGOs are doing great effort and job in combatting sexual harassment and increasing people's awareness, this is clear from the good results they



succeeded to reach. Therefore, there are important lessons which the Egyptian NGOs could learn from them. These lessons are:

- Upgrading NGOs' website in a way to help females learn more about the NGO, its activities and how they support victims with legal and psychological support. For example the website of Al Shehab NGO needs to be more advanced to be accessed easily.
- NGOs should expand their awareness campaigns and trainings to both public and private sectors, not only in governorates. Such campaigns should encourage female employees to speak up in case they are sexually harassed at work
- NGOs have to help employers to take an action when such incidents happen at work, by setting clear guidelines which they could follow to limit such matter
- NGOs should list the contact details of professional counsellors and lawyers online to help victims to contact them directly at any time



V. CHAPTER FIVE

CASES WITH MEDIA FOCUS AND THREE CASE STUDIES

This chapter is divided into two parts; first part talks about sexual harassment incidents which happened in the Egyptian society showing how the problem is increasing at a frightening rate. Second part talks about three Egyptian NGOs which are HarassMap, Appropriate Communications Techniques for Development (Act) and Al Shehab Center for Comprehensive Development. Such NGOs are considered the most three influential ones in Cairo, they have been working on this issue for a long time and all of them do many awareness campaigns and offer psychological and legal support to victims.

Cases with Media Focus

On 25 May 2005, which was called "Black Wednesday", activists called for boycotting the referendum on constitutional reform by gathering in front of Saad Zaghul memorial and the Press Syndicate in Cairo. Security forces gave the way for groups of males to attack female journalists who were participating in the demonstration, it was said by one of the policemen to a woman protestor that these assaults were done intentionally to "stop you taking part in demonstrations again." Many survivors filed formal complaints, but unfortunately at the end of 2005 the cases were closed because the criminal could not be identified, although there were many photographic evidence and eyewitness testimonies. Till now, no actions were taken and no one was held for these attacks (Fahmy et al., 2014).

Although, public religious holidays, such as Eid El Fitr and Eid El Adha, are considered the peaks of sexual harassment and violence against females because streets are always crowded, policemen are hardly involved in defending women in the streets, even if



such violence is anticipated. For example, on the first day of Eid El Fitr in 2006, groups of males attacked females in downtown Cairo, uncovered them of their clothes and women were sexually attacked. This event helped to spread awareness of sexual harassment problem in Egypt and was one of the major events to bring such an issue to the attention of the Egyptian media (Hebblethwaite, 2014).

In 2009 during the first day of Eid El Adha, groups of young boys uncovered women of their clothes and sexually attacked them in Mohandesin, and according to respondents police officers could not intervene. In addition, some of the women who were interviewed in the 2013 UN Women study stated that when females seek help from police men when they face harassment, no one answered their requests, although it is their responsibility to protect women against violence. As a result, the states' failure to defend females increased the problem until it became normal in the Egyptian society (Fahmy et al., 2014).

From 2011 onwards, mob assaults of female protesters were widely believed to be used as a tool to prevent females from political participation in public space. This led to increasing discussions on the issue and a growing interest from civil society and the media on sexual harassment against girls and women. However, all these discussions were such talks and did not lead to any solution to solve the problem (Hebblethwaite, 2014).

Some other cases of sexual harassment and assault resulted in the death of the victim, this means that such a problem lead to serious and severe repercussions. For example, in September 2012, someone from Assiut was sexually harassed in the street, she fought with the harasser and ended up being killed by him. He was punished to 25 years in prison because of murdering her (Fahmy et al., 2014).



In August 2013, a female from Tanta, was run over by a car after she was opposed against sexual assault by the driver. According to media reports, the Prosecution found contradiction from eye witnesses' testimonies, some said that the driver hit her by accident, while her accompanying friend affirmed that he hit her intentionally. As of March 2014, no information was available on the status of the investigation (Fahmy et al., 2014).

On 26 November 2013, during a protest against military trials for citizens in front of the Shura Council in Cairo, the police beat and arrested various females' protesters. Many of them stated that they have been attacked sexually. Mona Seif and Rasha Azab, two of the females, said that they were exposed to insults and beatings during the arrest. On 27 November 2013, a number of women filed a complaint to the Public Prosecution because of attacks. As of March 2015, although the Prosecution took their testaments, there was no data available on whether an action was taken or no. These cases proved that criminals were not brought to justice and such issues were not dealt seriously (Fahmy et al., 2014).

According to reports, two policemen seduced a woman inside their car in Shubra El-Kheima. Another case was reported by the wife of a police officer saying that she was verbally harassed by two policemen in a security checkpoint (Nazra, 2015). These two incidents, in particular, prove that such an unpleasant behavior is done by males from different background even police men, who are supposed to protect women against such an assault.

In a nutshell, the above mentioned sexual harassment cases show that the problem in Egypt is a major one and is increasing, to the extent that women and girls face such an attitude and the society got used to it. Sexual harassment has become a mental disease and the



state could not limit it, but on the contrary females face sexual harassment from some of the employees in the public sector. This indicates that the prevalence of the problem is serious and will lead to several repercussions, if not limited.

Three Case Studies

Since sexual harassment is increasing at an alarming rate and the government could not combat such a crime or decrease it, several NGOs started working on such a problem, trying to increase the society's awareness and make them realize that such an action is a crime and harassers has to be punished. This part of the chapter talks about the most three influential NGOs working on combatting sexual harassment.

Case Study Number One: HarassMap

The Organization

HarassMap started in 2010 as a result of increasing sexual harassment cases in Egypt's streets. HarassMap is considered as the first independent initiative working on sexual violence in Egypt, aiming to make all Egyptians participate in creating a safe environment that does not accept harassment any more. In order to achieve such mission, HarassMap use an integrated approach that combine communication campaigns, research and technology in order to be able to serve 23 governorates in Egypt (HarassMap, 2015).

Target Group

HarassMap targets everyone in the society trying to increase people's awareness regarding such a problem, hoping that bystanders take an action and stand by the females' side when they face such an unwelcome attitude. Its campaigns focus on how to change



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people's perception and make them see sexual harassment as a crime which is unacceptable, and encourage citizens to support women when they experience such an action.

<u>Activities</u>

HarassMap uses social networks such as Facebook, twitter in delivering its messages and receiving complaints and interacts with women, as a source of communication. Moreover, it creates an online application in order to filter the inquiries and complaints received. It filters them to: phone harassments; stalking; un-welcomed comments; whistles; facial expressions or rape and Indecent assaults. It offers trainings at Cairo University, summer camps, and multiple discussion tables at Cairo, Alexandria to exchange different point of views and increase people's awareness.

HarassMap team believes that sexual harassment will not be eliminated unless the society stops ignoring it and stop accepting the harassers' behavior by giving him excuses or by blaming the females, so in the awareness campaigns, volunteers focus on making sexual harassment an intolerable crime. When the society understands that they should stop being tolerant with this behavior and should take an action, this might lead to public pressure on the government to consider it among its priorities and cooperate with the NGOs to eliminate such mental disease (HarassMap, 2015).

HarassMap creates a map online mentioning the streets in which harassments occur, so that other women could check this map as a way to create safe streets in Egypt. This could also be a way to increase awareness within the Egyptian citizens who still deny that sexual harassment is increasing day after day. HarassMap makes reports from the complaints which are received by girls and women through SMS and complaints added on the online map. In



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addition, the team does research in order to understand the society's perceptions and people's reactions toward sexual harassment, in order to focus on what needs to be stressed on during their campaigns (HarassMap, 2015).

After receiving the reports, the team maps the report which appears as a red dot, the full report appears by clicking on the dot. This is considered as an effective way trying to know how often and where sexual harassment usually occurs. All the reports are recorded anonymously and this encourages people to illustrate and give details about the incidence. It also proves to the community that sexual harassment does exist and the problem is serious. This could motivate people to help HarassMap team in reaching their goals, and it is a good way to break the society's silence. In addition, one of the useful actions HarassMap takes is sending an automatic response to the received SMSs about information regarding self-defense classes, legal assistance and psychological counseling (HarassMap, 2015).

HarassMap volunteers use the information from the map and talk to people in the neighborhood such as, doormen/women, shopkeepers because they are the people who affect the culture of the street. Volunteers answer people's questions and try to convince them that such an action is a crime that could not be excused and it is their social responsibility to have a role to stop it. After that, volunteers work with everyone in the neighborhood to reach zero acceptance for sexual harassment in Egypt. They show people the map and the stories documented on it to prove that sexual harassment happens on their street and the majority of women and girls are facing such a behaviour (HarassMap, 2015).



Campaigns

• Do not be Silent Campaign

In this campaign, volunteers raise people's awareness about how to stand against sexual harassment because when the society chooses to ignore the incidence, this gives the impression that sexual harassment is something normal in the society, people tolerate it and harassers feel that they can do this action anytime to anyone, and that is why the problem is increasing. As per the researcher interview with HarassMap Junior Researcher, she said:

"Society's silence and acceptance is one of the reasons that increased the problem and harassers felt that they can do such an action anytime, anywhere and to anyone." (Personal Interview, Junior Researcher, 5 January, 2016)

The campaign also stresses that sexual harassment is not the females' fault, it is a crime nevertheless of what they do, wear or do not wear and the harasser is a criminal who should be sentenced to jail. In this campaign, volunteers give participants below tips (HarassMap, 2015):

- Speak up when you face or witness such an action to ask for help.
- Report on HarassMap website, Facebook page, twitter or by SMS 6069, about what happened mentioning details when and where.
- Talk about such a crime to friends, family and colleagues to increase people's awareness regarding the scale of the problem
- > Report to the police officers for legal support and enforce the law to be implemented



• <u>Haraser = Criminal Campaign</u>

HarassMap launched a campaign called Harasser = Criminal ('El Mota7aresh Mogrim'). The campaign speaks to all Egyptians from different social groups, informing them with sexual harassment law, encourage people to intervene and support the victims when they face harassment (HarassMap, 2015).

• <u>HarassMap at Menoufeya University</u>

HarassMap team prepared a panel discussion at Menoufeya University for university administration, students and staff about sexual harassment and how to support women (HarassMap, 2015).

• In the University Campaign

In the university campaign encouraged students and university staff to have a discussion and talk about the issue and ask for a policy to fight sexual harassment at the university (HarassMap, 2015).

Outcomes

HarassMap's integrated approach, which includes community campaigns, online/mobile technology and mass media, succeeded in helping people be active witnesses against harassment and try to take an action, even if by just talking about the problem. In addition, it played a very important role in adopting policy to fight sexual harassment in Cairo University, this was through a project called "Our Safe Schools and Universities", and the project worked on making sure that such institutions would not bare sexual harassment anymore.



As per the researcher interview with HarassMap Junior Researcher, the interviewee assumed that HarassMap is considered the most popular NGO working on combatting sexual Harassment which people trust. It could not have achieved such good reputation if it is not a successful one. The interviewee said,

"HarassMap team is available everywhere and everyone knows about it. We can reach people easily, providing them with all the needed support. People inform us when they face such an action asking for our advice and this is a proof that we are well known and trusted." (Personal Interview, Junior Researcher, 5 January, 2016)

Challenges

Although, HarassMap is doing many campaigns and activities trying to solve the problem, however, bystanders and police do not intervene if they see sexual harassment case in the street. 75% of women who report harassment to HarassMap say that they did not receive any help from the by standers (HarassMap, 2015). As per the researcher interview with HarassMap staff member, Egyptian women are afraid to file a case when they are harassed because of the Egyptian culture which will definitely blame them, in addition to the law which is not well implemented. Police officers need to take a training about how to deal with people in a respectful way, especially that the majority of the officers are dealing with people in an unpleasant way. She said:

"Filing a case is not easy at all because of people's costumes and tradition. People will tell the girl, it is your mistake and if you go to the police station to report you will bring sandal to you family. In addition in police stations, girls do not feel that they are treated as human beings. Police officers should have training to know how to deal



with the victims, how to respect them and respect their privacy." (Personal Interview, Junior Researcher, 5 January, 2016)

Another major challenge which HarassMap team faces is from the government's side which is not helping them or facilitating their job. For example, one of the obstacles which the team faces is getting the approval of the Central Agency for General Public Mobilization and Statistics in order to do household surveys. Such approval takes around six month and this is a long period of time that delays their work. HarassMap staff member said:

"We face difficulties from the governments' side in getting the approvals needed to do our campaigns" (Personal Interview, Junior Researcher, 5 January, 2016)

In addition, Ministry of Interior Affairs does not allow HarassMap team to access or have a look at the number of sexual harassment cases which are filed. Such information is urgently needed to help them realize to what extent their campaigns affect people and change the culture's wrong perceptions about such an issue. HarassMap Junior Researcher said

"The government is not helping us at all, for example Ministry of Interior does not allow me to access crimes statement. Such statement will help me know how effective our campaigns are and what needs to be done to reach our goals. The government is not supporting us or even facilitating our job" (Personal Interview, Junior Researcher, 5 January, 2016).

To conclude, HarassMap exerts effort in helping females who face such an unpleasant actions and people trust them. One of HarassMap creative ideas is the online map which



helps females know the places which are of high harassment cases. However, although such NGO bears one of the government's burdens, the governmental sectors do not facilitate its job. HarassMap team faces some challenges because of the government's procedures. As per Harassmap Junior Researcher, NGO team could not reach some of their goals because the government is not supporting them, in addition to the society's wrong sensitivities such a problem.

Case Study Number Two: Al Shehab Center for Comprehensive Development

The Organization

Al Shehab Center is one of the NGOs that has many activities in slums areas, it is interested in the social work in Egypt and aims at developing and empowering women and children, who are the weakest groups in the society. Al Shehab works in poor areas and tackles people's problems, not only sexual harassment. Its staff could build a strong relationship with the citizens there and people trust them more than the government. It has been working in EH area for around 15 years in so many other issues related to poverty, illiteracy, --etc. so they successfully build trust with the people living there. It started working on sexual harassment problem in EH since 2011. Al Shehab chose this area in particular because people there are poor and do not know their rights to a great extent.

Target Group

Al Shehab target groups are males, females and kids, focusing more on the harasser since he is the main cause of the problem. Al Shehab is the one of the few NGOs which



increases kids' awareness, not only adults, to bring them up understanding what is meant by sexual harassment and how to protect themselves.

Activities

Girls are given training about how to protect themselves when they face any kind of sexual harassment either verbally or physically, and when to call Al Shehab as an NGO to help them. As for men, who are considered the main perpetrator of the problem, Al Shehab team tries to change their attitude telling them that they have an important role in defending any girl who faces such situation and why they should protect them. In addition, men are given training about how to control their emotions and anger, talking to drivers because most of girls' complains are from them. As per Al Shehab Project Manager, after finishing the training, the perception of women in men's minds before and after the training differed to a great extent; drivers started to respect other's rights and become eager to protect females and intervene when they ask for the help.

As for kids, they are educated through songs which concentrate on how they could protect themselves because their body is something that belongs to them, so they have to defend it. Songs include words like "ana ghaly ana ma7bub, ma7adesh y2dar yelmesny", which means "I am a lovely person, and nobody can touch me". Kids understand the meaning of the songs and they love them to the extent that they sing the songs everywhere and parents are happy to hear their kids say such words. As per Al Shehab Project Manager,

"Kids sing the songs at home and the feedback we get from their parents show how much they are happy" (Personal Interview, Project Manager, 14 December, 2015).



Moreover, Al Shehab team believes that drug addiction is connected to sexual harassment actions because those who are addicted to drugs are harassers, so in addition to the awareness campaigns, the team is trying to reach as many addicted males as they can to help them to recover and rehabilitate them to be volunteers in the awareness campaign. After recovery, the addicted males can share their experience with others trying to support them as well.

<u>Campaigns</u>

• Interactive Theater

In this campaign, males and femaless watch interactive theater done by youth. They play a case from real life and start asking people's opinion through a debate. After the play is finished a discussion starts with the people about the problem mentioned in the play. For example, one of the plays was about a girl who was sexually harassed at work but she was forced to accept such an action and continue working in the same place because of life expenses. The attendees' reaction was that she should leave work even if she will not find what to eat.

• Knocking Door Campaign

Al Shehab staff passes by people's home talking to them about sexual harassment and gives messages in order to teach them how to protect their children from such an action, how to react and what should be done.



Outcomes

Women become more aware of the problem and come to inform AL Shehab team when they are sexually harassed, but on a friendly basis and this is something positive to some extent especially that in the past women and girls were afraid to talk. As per the researcher interview with the Project Manager, he said:

"Women may not go to police stations to file a case when they face sexual harassment, but they become more aware of the problem and talk to us. I consider talking or complaining about the issue as a success, even if they come to talk to us on a friendly basis. This could be step one to stop accepting this problem" (Personal Interview, Project Manager, 14 December, 2015)

Al Shehab Project Manager assumed that a large number of men, boys, girls and women who were trained or attended the awareness campaigns became volunteers later on and have the experience to transfer what they learned to others from the same age. Such volunteers' main aim now is to free EH from sexual harassment, hopefully, and to create cadres from its society who have the ability to help in improving and developing the society. Al Shehab succeeded to have volunteers who want to do something and change the society. The Project Manager said:

"My goal was to make youth come to me saying I want to work with you in the awareness campaigns and we succeeded in doing so. Especially that these youth brought their friends." (Personal Interview, Project Manager, 14 December, 2015)



Moreover, in the awareness campaigns Al Shehab staff could gain people's trust in EH area through using technical and entertainment approaches, such as sports, art and music. This builds good friendship with citizens there because Al Shehab team offers them something which they are deprived from. Such hobbies do differ in their mentality. As the Project Manager claimed:

"We are offering them something they are deprived from and at the same time deliver a message or an idea. As a result, we succeeded in building friendship with people and they tryst us." (Personal Interview, Project Manager, 14 December, 2015)

Challenges

As per the researcher's interview with Al Shehab employee, he said that they are doing effort to limit such a problem but the governmental sectors do not help them or even facilitate their work because it is convinced with what they are doing. For example, before going out in the streets and talk to people they have to get security approval, and this is a bit difficult because policemen are afraid of people's gatherings to the extent that our team was arrested before because of talking to people in the streets. He said,

"Since, the government does not support us, one of the risks we faced is arresting some of our team during our campaigns which are done in the streets because of demonstrations and anti-terrorism law." (Personal Interview, Project Manager, 14 December, 2015)

The Project Manager believes that in Egypt, rules are not followed by citizens or even by police men who are supposed to respect the country's regulations. This is evidenced



because police officers themselves harass females instead of protecting their rights. Sexual harassment cases that happen in police stations and in public sectors are unbelievable. Such challenge is reason one why they could not achieve their goal in convincing women and girls to take their right by the law and file a case. He said:

"In Egypt, we do not have rules and regulations with its deep meaning especially and sexual harassment is not among the government's priority. The law sounds to be serving people's rights but on the ground, things are different. What happens in public places and public sector is shocking. Females face such an action from police officers who are supposed to protect them. We were informed by a woman at EH area that when she went to report a case that happened to her, the police officer harassed her." (Personal Interview, Project Manager, 14 December, 2015)

To conclude, Al Shehab could reach very poor places which the government does not pay attention to and it could meet some of people's needs there. However, the NGO faces some challenges because of the government does not support them. Al Shehab staff believes that the problem is difficult to the extent that if all the NGOs in Egypt work on such a problem, it will not be solved. The government should help NGOs by at least giving them their space in order to add credibility to what they are doing. The staff member claimed:

"NGOs reach places and poor areas that the government knows nothing about. If the government supports me and gives me a space, this will add credibility to what we are doing. "If all NGOs in Cairo work on sexual harassment only, the problem will not be solved unless it is in the government's agenda. The problem is really huge and



difficult and the government is doing nothing or even helping us. " (Personal Interview, Project Manager, 14 December, 2015)

Case Study Number Three: Appropriate Communications Techniques for Development (ACT)

The Organization

ACT started working on sexual harassment in 2012. It depended on different mechanisms such as working in the streets, improving volunteers' skills who have not worked in the civil society before, or do not have any experience in how to raise citizens' awareness about sexual harassment. Their goal is to create a society free from sexual harassment.

Target Group

In its awareness campaigns, ACT's target group is women and girls. ACT's team might do some campaigns to boys, but females are their focus. It focuses more on poor places because people there need comprehensive development and need to understand that sexual harassment is violating their rights to live in a safe area as human beings.

Activities

ACT does awareness campaigns in several and different places; meet people from both genders in the streets and have hotline to receive females' complains. I Saw Harassment is one of the first initiatives which worked on sexual harassment. ACT spread their message through direct or indirect meetings with the media.



<u>Campaigns</u>

ACT staff organizes I Saw Harassment campaign awareness in several governorates, areas and universities, especially in poor places. They go to streets, wear T-shirts with the name of I Saw Harassment to attract girls' attention and they can be easily seen if girls or women need help. They also advertise on their Facebook page and on Twitter saying time and place of their campaign, so that people can join them.

During the campaigns, ACT team raises girls' awareness by informing them that it is everyone's basic right to walk in the street without being afraid and that they should have equal right as males.

Outcome

One of ACT goals was having a policy in Cairo University dealing with sexual harassment as a crime and they succeeded to achieve such goal. As assumed by Campaign Coordinator, the policy in Cairo University now was as a result of their work and effort when they confronted a case happened to a girl in the university and the dean started blaming the girl saying that she was dressed in an inappropriate way, they defended her through a debate in media for 72 hours. As a result, there was a strategy in the university which is considered as a real success for an NGO. The Campaign Coordinator said:

"The policy in Cairo University is as a result of our job when we stood beside a girl who experienced harassment at the university. We did a confrontation that lasted for 72 hours and could get her right." (Personal Interview, Campaign Coordinator, 14 December, 2015)



<u>Challenges</u>

As per the researcher interview with the Campaign Coordinator, one of the challenges that prevents them from reaching their goals is not applying the law on citizens who are working in the public sector because such sectors are followed by the administrative prosecution and not the rules and regulations of the state, and this is a problem. For example, if sexual harassment is done by someone working at the public sector he will only face deduction from his salary, or be transferred to another department and that's it and of course this does not help at all in solving the problem or even in limiting it especially that sexual harassment cases which occur in the governmental sectors are unbelievable. He said:

"One of the law obstacles is that it is applied on those people walking in the streets and not in the public sector. So, the law does not stand beside girls if they face violence from someone in a governmental sector, such as public universities and this is a disaster. Sexual harassment cases in the public sector are horrible. Therefore, there should be a hard public unified law to be applied on everyone in all sectors. "(Personal Interview, Campaign Coordinator, 14 December, 2015)

Another challenge which ACT team faces is not being supported by the government to facilitate their tasks. I Saw Harassment Campaign Coordinator said that sexual harassment issue is not among the government's agenda, that why it does not listen to them or even consider their recommendations in solving the problem. Government officials say that they are overloaded with political and economic problems which are major problems than sexual harassment, such as concentrating on Egypt's National Security. NGOs are doing their best in trying to combat such an important issue, but they would not solve the problem alone because they are doing a small part in limiting such a huge problem. He said:



"Sexual harassment is not a priority for the government, although authorities know that the problem is increasing. Authorities have their excuses, like we are fighting terrorism and trying to solve the problem of gas, energy and these are much important issue." We meet with the government employees who are in charge but they do not listen to us. The government is not doing its role efficiently that's why we are here doing what should be done by the state and it knows this quite well". (Personal Interview, Campaign Coordinator, 14 December, 2015)

In addition, one of the challenges which ACT face is encouraging women and girls to file a case when they face sexual harassment because the law is not well implemented. Most of the Egyptian women and girls become quite sure that the law will not stand by their side and they do not trust police officers who in many times harass them instead of defending them. That's why it is really hard to convince anyone of them to file a case. He said:

"Most of us do not trust police officers. If a girl goes to the police station to make a complaint, can you guarantee that the police officer there will treat her as a human being? One of my friends was harassed by a police man in the police station, she got very depressed saying that law will not stand in my side" (Personal Interview, Campaign Coordinator, 14 December, 2015)

One of ACT's creative ideas regarding the harassers who are sentenced to prison, is putting them all in one prison and to be categorized according to their sin and age. The punishment period should be rehabilitating them by experts who have enough information and are experienced in psychology and human rights, so that they will be mentally developed and become more civilized, to the extent that later on the society can depend on them in



raising people's awareness after they are set free. ACT team sent a proposal to the government with the idea to get their feedback about the availability to do so and they are waiting for the government's approval. Campaign Coordinator believes that putting harassers in prison is not a solution, the government should think about additional solutions to improve their way of thinking. As said by the Campaign Coordinator:

"I believe that putting harassers in prison will be nothing except adding more people to prison who will be criminals in the society, later on. We sent our proposal to those responsible in putting policy and we hope they will do something, but I am not optimistic because sexual harassment is not in the government's agenda." (Personal Interview, Campaign Coordinator, 14 December, 2015)

In a nutshell, ACT is one of the NGOs which are doing many awareness campaigns, but still could not reach satisfied results because of the government bureaucracy. Its staff member has some concerns with the law, which is not implemented, but no one of the officials listen to them. They proposed an excellent idea, since many months ago, regarding harassers who will be sentenced to prison, but still waiting for the government feedback. ACT Campaign Coordinator believes that NGOs alone will not solve the problem because they are doing a minor part.



NGOs	Campaigns	Outcome	Challenges
HarassMap	 Don't be silent Harasser = Criminal Menoufeya Uni. In the Uni. 	 Females started to take an action Safe Corporate project People started to talk 	 Societal Pressure Societal Values Sexual Harassment Law is not implemented No support from the governmental sectors
AlShehab	- Interactive Theater - Knocking Door	 Females started to talk Those who attended the campaigns became volunteers 	 Societal Pressure Societal Values Sexual Harassment Law is not implemented No support from the governmental sectors
ACT	I Saw Harassment	- Females started to talk - Policy in Cairo Uni.	 Societal Pressure Societal Values Sexual Harassment Law is not implemented No support from the governmental sectors

To conclude, although all the interviews with NGOs staff members were done separately, all of them agreed that they are doing huge work but did not find any support from the governments' side and it is not helpful at all. This made the researcher totally convinced that NGOs efforts are in vain because the government does not listen to them and the law is not implemented because of some employees who do not want to do their work. NGOs agree that when a case is filed, females are treated badly from the policemen, who could harass them as well, because there is no planned strategy in implementing the law and police officers know very well that nothing would happen to them. All NGOs staff members whom



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the researcher met believe that issuing a law is not only what is needed to decrease sexual harassment, especially that it is not activated and the system in police stations is corrupted.

Therefore, the researcher had to do interviews with public sector entities in order to analyze the problem from all angles. The researcher succeeded in meeting two staff members from National Center for Women, one from Ministry of Solidarity, an Educational Expert in Ministry of Education & Lecturer in Curriculum and Methodology at Cairo University and a Political Teacher at National Center for Social and Criminological Research, and she came up with below findings:.

1) Repetition of Tasks

As per the researcher interviews with government representatives, some of the government sectors do same activities as the NGOs. For example, Ministry of Solidarity does awareness campaigns in several places exactly as NGOs, National Center for Social and Criminological Research provide girls with psychological and legal support in case needed and Ministry of Interior Affairs has a hotline through which girls can call to ask for help. This shows that there is repetition of activities.

2) Lack of Trust between NGOs and the Government

Although all these interviews done with the government entities were done separately, all interviewees had the same opinion regarding the awareness campaigns of NGOs and their activities in general. They believe that NGOs are doing nothing except propaganda, they few interviews in television only to show that they are working and collect donations, one of the interviewees said that NGOs are there only to reach a particular donor. Below are some of the interviewees' opinion:



"I know nothing about the awareness campaigns done by NGOs and I do not think they are effective or have channels in different governorates. Such NGOs do these campaigns seeking propaganda and being popular, they are available during occasions and disappear after that. We need now to encourage people to report to police stations to apply the law and this is not done by the NGOs." (Personal Interview, Lawyer, December 16, 2015)

"Yes ACT is doing awareness campaigns, but without any plans. For example, who are their target group? What is the outcome of such campaigns? I do not think they reached any good results up till now. What they are doing is nothing but a propaganda in order to reach a particular donor. They need to work with a planned strategy, not the way they are working now." (Personal Interview, Political Teacher, December 16, 2015)

Educational Expert in Ministry of Education & Lecturer in Curriculum and Methodology at Cairo University stated that:

"NGOs campaigns are not effective at all. To who are they talking to?" (Personal Interview, Educational Expert, December 17, 2015)

Another example which proves lack of trust between NGOs and the government is when the researcher gave an evidence to National Council for Women staff that NGOs are doing their job, saying that the policy in Cairo University is as a result of one of the NGOs' work, he did not accept the idea saying that this is not true and if what they say is right they do not follow up on implementing the policy. He claimed:



"What do you mean by saying that they played an important role in having a strategy in Cairo University? Who is following up that it is implemented in the University?" (Personal Interview, Lawyer, December 16, 2015)

Moreover, the researcher had another interview with an ex-employee in I Saw Harassment campaign and at National Council for Women. Although she was working in an NGO she believes that NGOs which work on women's issues is not doing their work successfully because they work haphazardly with no accurate data, research or statistics about places which are affected by sexual harassment. NGOs know nothing about which governorates in Egypt do not allow the citizens living there to talk in such an issue.

She believed that the problem is that police officers do not want to work and are lazy enough to take such an issue seriously. They do not want women to become aware of their rights, so as not to come to them every now and then to file a case. She gave example for Kafr El Sheikh Governorate and how such city does not accept, even mentioning the topic. When she was among the ACT team to do an awareness campaigns, people there dealt with them in a mocking way and they were not welcomed from the police officers who forced them to leave the place. As a result, the whole team was depressed from the way they were dealt believing that there is no hope, not only to eliminate sexual harassment but also to limit it.

After that, on Kafr El Sheikh Facebook page many girls reported that they were sexually harassed from a taxi driver giving description about his appearance. So, she met the Director of the Traffic Police Investigation telling him the story saying that he was the one who prevented them from doing their job, saying that there is no sexual harassment in Kafr El



Sheikh and everything is ok. After such meeting, the police arrested the driver within 24 hours only, and this proved that police officers were capable to do their job but they did not want to exert any effort. The ex-employee said that the director did his job this time only because of the way she talked to him putting the blame on him, other than that he would not have done anything. She believed that there was no problem with those who were supposed to apply the law to save girls' rights.

In a nutshell, by looking at the point of view of both NGOs and the government sectors we will find that each of them is putting the blame on the other. NGOs believe that they lack support from the government, which does not listen to their suggestions or recommendations and government entities state that NGOs campaigns are not effective or efficient because no one hears about them or attends the trainings they organize. In addition, some of the government sectors do same activities as those done by the NGOs, and as a result this is double effort. This shows that both NGOs and government sector do not trust each other and there is a conflict of interest in what each sector is doing.

The problem is very difficult and is beyond the effort of one organization, it will not be solved by the government only or NGOs alone. It needs the efforts of both in order to reach tangible results and this could not be achieved without working collaboratively together, especially that change will not happen on its own. As stated in the literature review section many scholars agreed that cooperation between NGOs and the government is a must because NGOs are effective, could reach poor people easily and are trusted by them and on the other hand, the government will remove a burden from its shoulder. As a result, such collaboration is a win-win situation, which will definitely lead to great results and solve many



of the societal problems that the government does not even think about, not only sexual harassment.



VI. CHAPTER SIX

ANALYSIS

Egyptian NGOs are playing an important role in combatting sexual harassment through doing awareness campaigns and offering free legal and psychological support for the victims in order to help them. They do many activities as those done by the international NGOs mentioned in this study, in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Malaysia, and this means that they are doing their part in the problem to a great extent. As for the government, it believes that it issued anti-sexual harassment law and some of the governmental sectors do awareness campaigns to girls and help them to file a case, therefore this will put an end to the problem.

However, the main obstacle that all NGOs face and prevents them from reaching better results is the government. The governmental entities do not support NGOs either by listening to them and their suggestions or by facilitating the procedures needed to make their work easier. NGOs' work is delayed because of the needed procedures and the approvals they have to get in order to do awareness campaigns, in addition the government does not provide them with the information they need, such as number of sexual harassment cases which are recorded, to help them know whether their awareness campaigns are effective or not and what needs to be developed.

This is because the government does not give full attention to sexual harassment problem which is not among the state's agenda or priority, considering it a small issue compared to other political and economic problems which put the country in a dilemma. The government has its excuses saying that it is fighting terrorism to protect the national security



which is much more important than sexual harassment. However, state security is humans' security and sexual harassment is another form of terrorism as it means grabbing safety from girls and women, as a result they are not safely walking in the streets. Terrorism is not only killing other people or do suicide attacks, it is everything which prevents others from living peacefully. It means the penetration of people's safety and this is the case about sexual harassment, it penetrates females' inner peace, because they are afraid to face sexual harassment if they walk alone in the streets.

Nevertheless, as per the researcher interviews with the NGOs and the government representatives, both NGOs and the public sector are working on the problem from their point of view only, believing that it is the only sector working and the problem could be solved from its side only. For example, the government issued the law to punish the harasser believing that this is the greatest solution to limit sexual harassment because the law will help women and girls to take their rights by filing a case against the harasser and he will not dare to do such an action when he is sentenced to prison. On the other hand, NGOs are doing awareness campaigns everywhere and supporting the victims with all what is needed, believing that this the best that could be done.

In addition, each sector is not convinced with what the other is doing putting the blame of increasing the problem on each other, this was clear from the ambiguity and contraction in the words said by both sectors. This means that, there is conflict of mandate, mutual distrust and lack of coordination between the government sector and the NGOs regarding such a problem. For example, NGOs believe that the governmental sectors make their work difficult because it does not support them and does not listen to their recommendations or suggestions. They also say that the governmental sectors do not have



full capacity to limit sexual harassment, making their efforts to encourage women and girls to file a case in vain because the system itself is poor, not managed well and the law does not have any impact on women as citizens.

On the other hand, the governmental institutions believe that there are no effective awareness campaigns done by the NGOs and the campaigns which are done are nothing but propaganda to collect donations. They argue that NGOs are not doing any effort to raise girls' awareness to file a case when they experience this attitude, because NGOs are working haphazardly without any plans and that's why their campaigns are not successful at all and girls know nothing about them.

On the contrary, NGOs' staff members believe that they are well known to people who attend their awareness campaigns and call them on their hotline asking for help and this is a proof that people are aware of what they are doing and of their existence. In addition, in their awareness campaigns, they focus on increasing females' awareness that it is their right to report to the police when they are sexually harassed but no one trust the law and police officers do not know how to deal with people in a respectful way.

Furthermore, from the government's sectors point of view, there is no obstacle in the law believing that there is a law so nothing else needs to be done. The government staff members believe that the government is considering sexual harassment as an important issue and this is clear when Ministry of Interior Affairs created a department combating violence against women which is run by a female police officer in four governorates; Cairo, El Shakeya, Portsaid and El Giza and a female police officer available during the Eid El Adha vacation in 2015 to protect females from sexual harassment. However, NGOs believe that the



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government issued the law but it is not well implemented or even activated, no one from the state's side monitor whether that law is implemented or not and how officers in the police stations deal with sexual harassment victims.

Moreover, reference to the three case studies mentioned in this study and the interviews done with the government representatives, both NGOs and government sectors are doing double effort because there is repetition in doing the same tasks. For example, both of them arrange awareness campaigns and activities, talking to males and females from different ages and categories and provide girls and women with the needed legal and psychological support. This proves that the government is working from its own point of view without coordination or consultation with the NGOs.

The government is specialized in legislating the law and NGOs are much more specialized in doing awareness campaigns and providing victims will all what is needed, because people trust NGOs and not the government. Therefore, the government has to focus more on implementing and activating the law, instead of overlapping the sectors with activities which are already done by NGOs. It has to cooperate with the NOGS, listen to them provide them with all the data they need to facilitate their job and give them a space to suggest and recommend.

As mentioned by many scholars in the literature review section, several scholars agree that dividing up tasks between NGOs and the government will be more successful, but work in isolation will lead to repetition of efforts and failure to achieve goals or reach good results, and unfortunately this is exactly the case in Egypt. That's why, there should be coalition between NGOs and the government to coordinate work between all sectors working on the



same issue and reach great outcomes. The law only or the NGOs alone will not solve the problem or even limit it, may be both the government and NGOs are doing their part but there is no cooperation between them and no strategic plan which is agreed by both sides, that's why the problem is still increasing at a frightening rate.

The government issued the law, but it did not monitor how it is activated, how it is effective, how police officers deal with victims, are police doing their work or they are only sitting in their places doing nothing. The government is not following up whether the law is efficient or not because it is sinking in so many other issues. NGOs should be given more space to interfere by giving them the authority to follow up on implementing the law, its outcomes, effectiveness and impact, especially that they have better potentials and can reach people in areas that the government knows nothing about. This could be under the umbrella of the government, but it should allow the NGOs to have the authority to do so, especially that the government needs someone to knock on its door saying what the priorities are, what needs to be done and how to manage.

NGOs bear the society's burdens and are of a great help to the state sectors in handling so many problems that are difficult barriers on the government's shoulder, that's why NGOs should be with the government not its followers. As mentioned in the literature review, NGOs complement the state and fill in the gap that the government could not fill. They reach areas which the government know nothing about and they are so close to the poor, who the government in Egypt does not even think about. NGOs need government's support in activating the law, enforcing rules and regulations, giving them more information and any research done on sexual harassment. This will facilitate achieving NGOs mission and



add a lot to their credibility. When NGOs succeed in achieving its mission and reaching its goals, it will remove a huge burden from the government's shoulder.

If the government and NGOs work together, they will reach better results because sexual harassment is a complex problem that can't be solved within a day and night by only one organization. It needs the participation of several actors in the society. Therefore, the government should open the doors for NGOs, listen to them, consider their suggestions and give them more space to work, help and intervene. As mentioned in the literature review, government will reach better results when it cooperates with NGOs. The government needs the NGOs because it could not solve the problem and has no time to go back to look at the law, find its holes or evaluate how it is applied.

Therefore, government-NGO collaboration is a win-win situation, government will benefit from the efficiency of the NGO, since it can't face such challenge alone and NGOs will successfully achieve their goals. Without such cooperation efforts of NGOs and the government are in vein, NGOs will not reach satisfied results and government will face catastrophes which will be as a result of sexual harassment. There should be a thick layer between NGOs and the public administration, especially that NGOs not only fill what is missing from the government's side but are also a back up to its failures.

CONCLUSION

To conclude, sexual harassment is considered as violence against women that deprives them from their basic right in the society and denies their right to live in a safe environment as men. Harassment in public spaces is still a neglected phenomenon from the government's side and is accepted in Egypt's daily life, and these two factors make it difficult



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to eliminate such a severe problem. If the government continue to ignore sexual harassment problem, this will lead to real terrorism and many other disasters between people living in the same community and same neighborhood.

NGOs are doing some good activities such as awareness campaigns to females, provide psychological and legal support to them, especially in poor areas/slums, and meet with the government officials to discuss the law and what needs to be changed. However, the government's authorities do not listen to them or consider their recommendations. As a result, NGOs could not reach good results in encouraging girls and women to protest against the harasser since they are still afraid to sew against the harasser because of not trusting anything related to the government and the law is not implemented.

NGOs need to be involved in the state's activities because they are able to deliver better services, serve more community and reach places which the government knows nothing about, in addition to being able to think out of the box and create new ideas. If one of NGOs' main strengths lies in their experience and capacity to innovate, the government might place a strong premium on cultivating this innovation for wider implementation and integration into its programs. The government is the one which could determine policy guidelines and supply logistics, but it does not follow up on how things are going on or to which extent the logistics it made helped in serving the masses. Therefore, both NGOs and the government complement each other.

The government focuses more on issuing the law but without having an eye on how it is implemented, while NGOs do not have the authority to legislate but through their widespread community networks, they can be the facilitator to ensure how things are



developed, could find what is missing and what needs to be done. As a result, both government and NGO should work together to fill in the gaps that the government is missing and reach better results in combatting sexual harassment. When both the government and NGOs collaborate, they complete each other and this will end up in solving one of the societal problems which is threatening the whole community.

Encouraging women to file a case is one of the goals that NGOs could not reach up till now because women do not trust that law, they are afraid from the society and from the police officer who is supposed to protect them. That's why NGOs should intervene to bridge the gap between the law, its strategy to be well implemented and this could not be done without mutual cooperation between government entities and the NGOs.

Coalition between NGOs and government is essential if the government really seeks a change, especially that sexual harassment in Egypt is a very complicated issue beyond all NGOs ability because they are doing the smallest part in solving the problem. Such partnership will avoid overlapping in activities, save effort, reach good results and protect the country from the disasters which will happen in the future because of sexual harassment. This could not be done if the government works on its own in isolation, without listening to NGOs and take their recommendations and comments seriously.

The government and NGOs should become engaged with this issue instead of the miscoordination between them, in order to reach real progress. Each one of them has its own ideas which are beneficial but they need to coordinate tasks. The government should look at the problem more seriously, facilitate NGOs' work and provide with all the support needed to reach development especially that its role in the society is to work hard to serve their country



and provide the citizens with better services. Therefore, having a strategy is essential because it is considered as a road map for what needs to be done, avoid repetition of tasks, set up plans and goals. Such strategy should be accepted and known by both sectors including methods and tools that are needed, otherwise nothing will be improved or changed.

Sexual harassment is a very difficult and complicated issue that needs a lot of time and effort, but still there is a hope if the government and NGOs work together to reach a decisive plan to overcome it. Such cooperation will add credibility to the government, which no one is trusting, and to NGOs messages that they deliver in the awareness campaigns. Sexual harassment will not disappear by itself on its own. The problem is huge, beyond anyone's expectations, but solving it is not impossible. What is needed now is to start from the right direction, more efforts have to be exerted by both the government and NGOs together to dig deeper into the matter. Therefore, the most successful and effective preventive plans and strategies on the problem need the coordination and involvement of both the government and the NGOs.

Egyptian women need safe and quiet streets to walk in and this is their basic rights as human beings. Females need a place where they are safe, a place where they can walk alone freely at any time without being afraid. Women are not free in their own country because their freedom is surpassed by men. They are treated by men as if they are not human beings who have feelings; they are harassed mentally not only physically. Women will not enjoy freedom without any barriers as long as they are not safe in their own country. Sexual harassment shouldn't be something ok that we can live with. The government should know that non-government organizations are a major key partner in solving such an issue, and it should cooperate with them.



Finally, in order to reach good results and eliminate sexual harassment, coalition between the government and NGOs is essential. Such cooperation will add reliability to both sectors and will encourage girls to speak and face such violence and this will be the start! After that NGOs and the government will cooperate to set a plan and handle the rest. When all stakeholders are involved distributing the tasks and working together, this will lead to great success. Egyptians have the will, so let's do it for our daughters and sisters. All should believe that sexual harassment is not and will not be okay. Yes, it is very difficult to eliminate sexual harassment in Egypt but it is not impossible.



VII. CHAPTER SEVEN

RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to reach quick solutions in limiting sexual harassment and increasing peoples' awareness, there should be a strategic plan, rules and regulations to be enforced and then organize the tasks between NGOs and the government sectors depending on the effectiveness and efficiency of each sector. When responsibilities between the government and NGOs are divided, this will avoid repetition of tasks and overlapping activities. Below are the possible recommendations, from the researcher's point of view, that could help in combating sexual harassment.

Recommendation One: Train Police Officers

Police officers should have special training on how to implement law, enforce it, respond properly to women's needs, deal with females as human beings, handle complains with confidentiality and respect females' privacy because they have same rights as males. Then, Ministry of Interior Affairs should make sure that police patrols are spread in each area in Egypt and the officers are well trained and know how to deal with sexual harassment cases that happens in the street.

In addition, there should be a staff member from the NGO in every police station in coordination with ministry of interior affairs to check how law is implemented, and make sure that policemen deal with women in a respectable way and are enforcing the law. This will not only force police officers to do their job effectively, but it will also encourage females to file a case against the harasser, especially that NGOs are much more trusted than anyone works in the governmental sector.



Recommendation Two: Awareness Campaigns

Organize awareness campaigns widely by several ways, first: call political and religious parties, who are trusted and popular, to widely condemn and criminalize sexual harassment as a kind of sexual violence against women. Second, do awareness raising campaigns on TV for both men and women, as the most important thing needs to be done is breaking the silence on sexual harassment and encourage people to talk out loud about the issue. Such campaigns should target not only females but also males to deal with the problem from all sides because men are the main penetrators of the problem, and talking to females only will not be an efficient way to increase society's awareness. These campaigns should be done and organized by NGOs since they are much more effective and experienced than the government.

Recommendation Three: Formative Research

One of the best strategies that could be useful is doing a formative research in order to be able to determine and refine what needs to be done, what are the messages that should be delivered and in which governorates. From such research, NGOs will be able to understand the problem well, reach the targeted audience, depending upon cultures, education, background---- etc. The government has to support NGOs by using different sources to get validated information and provide them with accurate and updated data about which areas to start with, number of sexual harassment cases per year and who are the target groups to work on.

Campaign assessments show that the most successful ones are those which focus on the right group in order to reach good results. Therefore, collecting information and assessing the situation before any activity is vital to put a baseline before work, this will be beneficial



in comparing the situation before and after the intervention and deciding what needs to be changed or added. National Center for Social and Criminological Research could provide NGOs with such data because their main job is based on research and societal problems.

Recommendation Four: Monitoring and Evaluation

After collecting data and communicating with the target audiences there should be monitoring to identify the challenges and make sure that every activity is going in the right place to achieve goals. Monitoring and evaluation will help to verify that things are going well and decide the adjustments needed to reach better results. This will help in determining the data that must be collected, what is missing, choose methods to collect data, analyze findings, make the right decision or change the taken ones, facilitate enhancements, pave the way for more successful strategies, analyze the current situation, set future goals and decide how to achieve objectives more effectively.

It is essential to evaluate and monitor policies used for effective strategies on sexual harassment and make sure that the policy is well implemented. In Egypt, we will find that policies are not monitored and the government could not manage to follow on the results. Therefore, NGOs should act as a facilitator and should have the power to follow on policy implementation, monitor the strategy used to guarantee confidentiality of the victims, respect their privacy and assure that anti-harassment policy is efficient and effective.

Recommendation Five: Participatory Decision Making Process

One of the main factors which proves discrimination between males and females is women's low presentation in the decision making process for decades, this leads to not prioritizing women's issues. For example, during Mubarak's era, a quota was forced for women's seats in the parliament. During 2010 elections, 62 females were elected to the seats



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reserved and only one was selected by the president; this represents only 12%. In 2011, the seat quota was eliminated and changed with a quota of only one female in each electoral list. (Nazra, 2015)

During the Shura Council elections in 2012, women won only 4 out of 180 seats and 8 were chosen by the President, representing 4% and this is a low percentage. Females should be involved with their own experiences and perspectives in the decision making process, have a voice in discussing women's issues and the laws which are related to them, because the only one who could discuss women's problems are women themselves. Otherwise, females will continue to face many more problems because no one is paying attention to their matters. (Nazra, 2015)

Recommendation Six: Ministry of Media

Media is a double edged weapon, first because it could be one of the reasons that deteriorated the society's manners, especially that there is no censorship on what is presented on TV. Second, it could be one of the channels that increases society's awareness regarding sexual harassment issue. The government should supervise what is accessible on TV and arrange talk shows which host those who play a role in sexual harassment phenomenon, such as a member in Ministry of Interior Affairs, Ministry of Education, NGOs team, religious figures---etc. If the minister of media has the will to change the Egyptian society to a more civilized one, TV will be one of the successful networks which could increase Egyptian's awareness, including parents who in many times feel ashamed if their daughters face such situation. TV programs should send clear messages about the problem, how females should do when they face such a situation and what bystanders should do when they see such a crime.



Recommendation Seven: Ministry of Education

All the above mentioned recommendations will be effective and reach good results on the short run, therefore, if we want to make a change on the long run, the government should start from schools. Teachers should educate kids from early stages what is meant by sexual harassment, each stage according to kids' age. Lack of manners is reason one that deteriorated the Egyptian society recently, that's why we have to start from scratch to protect the coming generations because the best effective and efficient weapon to combat sexual harassment is to prevent such a crime.

There should be printed free modules which teach students good ethics and manners. The government should make a sovereign decision in order to educate children a subject called "Manners" and impose it in the curriculum, in addition to arranging with NGOs to make an awareness campaigns for students, even once per semester. This will result in having a generation well educated, brought up in a good way and knows from day one how to respect others' freedom. And this is not something hard to achieve, especially that Ministry of Public Knowledge used to print a book about manners in 1934.



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ANNEX

IRB Approval

THE AMERICAN UNIVERSITY IN CAIRO

CASE #2015-2016-064

To: Lamia FaragCc: Mareiz WasfiFrom: Atta Gebril, Chair of the IRBDate: Dec 11, 2015Re: Approval of study

This is to inform you that I reviewed your revised research proposal entitled "**Role of NGOs in Combating Sexual Harassment in Egypt**" and determined that it required consultation with the IRB under the "expedited" heading. As you are aware, the members of the IRB suggested certain revisions to the original proposal, but your new version addresses these concerns successfully. The revised proposal used appropriate procedures to minimize risks to human subjects and that adequate provision was made for confidentiality and data anonymity of participants in any published record. I believe you will also make adequate provision for obtaining informed consent of the participants.

This approval letter was issued under the assumption that you have not started data collection for your research project. Any data collected before receiving this letter could not be used since this is a violation of the IRB policy.

Please note that IRB approval does not automatically ensure approval by CAPMAS, an Egyptian government agency responsible for approving some types of off-campus research. CAPMAS issues are handled at AUC by the office of the University Counsellor, Dr. Amr Salama. The IRB is not in a position to offer any opinion on CAPMAS issues, and takes no responsibility for obtaining CAPMAS approval.



This approval is valid for only one year. In case you have not finished data collection within a year, you need to apply for an extension.

Thank you and good luck.

AttA esebril

Dr. Atta Gebril IRB chair, The American University in Cairo 2046 HUSS Building T: 02-26151919 Email: agebril@aucegypt.edu



Consent Form

الجامعة الأمريكية بالقاهرة

استمارة موافقة مسبقة للمشاركة في در اسة بحثية

عنوان البحث : دور الموسسات الغير هادفه للربح في مكافحه التحرش الجنسي الباحث الرئيسي: لمياء فرج عبد العزيز – طالبه ماجستير في الجامعه الامريكيه بالقاهره البريد الالكتروني: lamia@aucegypt.edu الهاتف: 01004873710 انت مدعو للمشاركة في دراسة بحثية عن دور الموسسات الغير هادفه للربح في مكافحه التحرش الجنسى هدف الدراسة هو معرفه دور الموسسات الغير هادفه للربح في مكافحه التحرش الجنسي و كيف يتم القضاء على هذه الظاهر ه نتائج البحث من الممكن أن يتم نشر ها دوريه متخصصه أو مؤتمر علمي أو ربما كليهما. المدة المتوقعة للمشاركة في هذا البحث ساعه او نصف ساعه فقط اجراءات الدراسة تشتمل على تتضمن الرسالة دور الموسسات الغير هادفه للربح و الحلول المتوقعه للقضاء على تلك الظاهره لا يوجد مخاطر من المشاركة في هذه الدراسة ولا يوجد استفادة من المشاركة في هذه الدراسة المعلومات التي ستدلى بها في هذا البحث لن تكون سرية و لذلك: 🗌 اوافق على ذكر اسمى بالرساله 🗌 لا اوافق على ذكر اسمى بالرساله أى أسئلة متعلقة بهذه الدراسة أو حقوق المشاركين فيها أوعند حدوث أى اصابات ناتجة عن هذه المشاركة يجب ان توجه الى لمياء فرج عبد العزيز: رقم التليفون 01004873710 ان المشاركة في هذه الدر اسة ماهي الا عمل تطوعي, حيث أن الامتناع عن المشاركة لايتضمن أي عقوبات أو فقدان أي مزايا تحق لك. ويمكنك أيضا التوقف عن المشاركة في أي وقت من دون عقوبة أو فقدان لهذه المزايا الامضاء:

اسم المشارك :

التاريخ :/......



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Interview Questions

Introduction about the NGO

- 1. When did you start working in the area of SH?
- 2. What made you interested in sexual harassment?

The organization

- 1. What are your main activities and programs related to SH?
- 2. What are the groups that you target?
- 3. From where do you get your data?
- 4. Does the government support your activities?

Sexual harassment law

- 1. Are you aware of the Egyptian SH Law Number 306 A and 306 B?
- 2. What do you think are the main advantages of having such a law? And what do you think areits weak points?
- 3. Did you play any role in advocating for the law?
- 4. From the cases you dealt with, do you think girls are afraid to talk about their experience with SH?

Challenges faced

- 1. What are the obstacles you face that prevent you from reaching your goals?
- 2. Do you face problems in funding?



Recommendations

- 1. From your point of view, what are your recommendations to put an end to sexual harassment?
- 2. What are the new policies and regulations the government should enforce?
- 3. What is your plan for the future regarding this problem?
- 4. In your opinion, what is the approximate time frame needed to end such a problem?
- 5. Finally, what do you need from the government to facilitate your job?



Pictures from NGOs' Awareness Campaigns

Al-Shehab NGO



Figure 3: Source, AlShehab NGO Website



ACT NGO



Figure 4: Source, Personal Interview with ACT Program Coordinator



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<u>HarassMap</u>





Figure 5: Source, HarassMap NGO Website





Figure 6: Source, HarassMap NGO Website



Figure 7: Source, HarassMap NGO Website

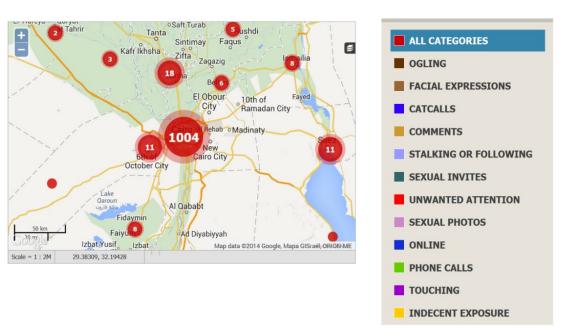


Figure 8: Source, HarassMap NGO Website

